

Helmlinger, Andrew

From: Helmlinger, Andrew
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 10:59 AM
To: SDJones@hollandhart.com
Cc: Johnstone, Jeremy
Subject: Puna Geothermal

Sheila,

Thank you for speaking with me yesterday. As I promised, I am following our conversation with this post to confirm a few matters that you expressed as important to resolve your client's concerns with EPA's use of SAIC as a contractor assisting in inspections for compliance with Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act and Section 103 of CERCLA.

-First, yes, SAIC is EPA's only available contractor to the program for the noticed inspection. It is working under contract EP/W09-032-WA#SAIC-1-13(R9).

-Second, under the applicable regulations for contractor involvement in the scheduled inspection (40 CFR 2.301(h)), EPA's program staff have confirmed that the SAIC staff assigned for the inspection are aware of and understand the regulations, and have as yet complied with the regulations. To be candid, because your client's concerns in this regard are uncommon, the review has turned out to be a positive and productive exercise in checking adherence of EPA's contractors.

-Finally, you asked EPA's motivation in conducting the inspection. I understand that the impetus of the inspection is simple routine, but that the scope of the inspection may consider a March 2013 release of hydrogen sulfide.

I trust that this information is useful to resolve your client's concerns. EPA looks forward to continued positive communication and cooperation with Puna Geothermal. If you have further questions or concerns, of course, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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